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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the "Rilda Canyon: Subsidence Repair Plan."

The plan presented appears to provide a sound method for securing the area by addressing an open subsidence crack. The procedure, as BLM understands it, is to:

1. Place aerated concrete blocks into the opening to form a stable plug.
2. Infill and cover with high density foam, binding the plug together and to host rock.
3. Backfill with available soils to two feet of depth to provide a base for plant growth.
4. Reseed the area.

The plan provides for helicopter or foot access only. In reviewing the topography, it appeared low footprint pressure vehicles could access the area over the existing terrain without the need for creating a roadway. Helicopter access is very convenient but has two significant drawbacks:

1. Cost: Despite the helicopter efficiency of direct site access, the high cost is significant and is ultimately passed on, in at least this case, to the electricity consuming public.
2. Risk: Although helicopter flights services are conducted in a proper and safe manner, there is an inherently higher risk due to the complexity of the transportation method.

Unless there is some larger public or individual benefit as defined by law, restricting access to only helicopter or foot travel exposes the public and the lessee to unnecessary costs and physical risk.

Thanks,  
Jeff

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